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# THE ELABORATION OF DRAFT PRINCIPLES RELEVANT TO THE USE OF NUCLEAR POWER SOURCES IN OUTER SPACE, WITH THE AIM OF FINALIZING THE DRAFT SET OF PRINCIPLES

Working paper submitted by Canada and Germany

The following is the tenth revision of the draft principles contained in working paper A/AC.105/C.2/L.154 of 25 March 1986 and reflects discussions held at the thirty-fourth session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. This revision is the result of close consultations with interested delegations and reflects as well what these and many other delegations consider to be a solid basis for further consensus to be reached at the next session of the Legal Subcommittee.

Principles 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 have been agreed to by the Committee. It was also agreed by the Committee that principle 11 be deleted.

## Principle 1A: Use of terms

1. For the purpose of principles 3, 4, 5 and 7 of these principles, the terms "launching State" or "State launching" mean the State on whose registry a space object is carried in accordance with the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space, and which shall retain jurisdiction and control over such an object according to article VIII of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies. If the object is not registered in accordance with the above-mentioned Convention, the terms "launching State" or "State launching" mean the State which exercises jurisdiction and control over such space object.

2. For the purpose of principle 9, the definition of the term "launching State" as contained in that principle is applicable.

## Principle 4: Safety assessment

1. A State launching a space object with a nuclear power source on board shall conduct in cooperation, where relevant, with those which have designed or constructed the NPS or will operate the space object with the nuclear power source on board a thorough and comprehensive safety assessment prior to each launch. This assessment shall cover as well all relevant phases of the mission and shall deal with all systems involved, including, for example, the means of launching, the space platform, the nuclear power source and its equipment, and the means of control and communication between ground and space.

2. This assessment shall respect the guidelines and criteria for safe use contained in principle 3.

3. Pursuant to article XI of the Outer Space Treaty, the results of this safety assessment shall be made publicly available prior to each launch, and the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall be informed on how States may obtain such results of the safety assessment as soon as possible prior to each launch.

## Principle 12: Revision

These principles shall be reviewed by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space no later than 10 years after their adoption.